" (e) No. Members of the Government, i.e., Hon'ble Ministers may be expected not to associate themselves with movements likely to embarrass them in the discharge of their duties."

Sri R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government do not consider sponsoring of movements which involve collection of subscriptions as activities which embarrass those who undertake it in the discharge of their duties? "

The Hon. Dr. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" It depends upon the nature of the collections and the funds for which they are collected."

Prices of pulses in this Province.

* Q. 142.—Sri P. VEERABHADRASWAMI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(a) whether the prices were fixed for green, red and black-grams in the month of May 1947;

(b) whether the Government have revised the prices after the lapse of three months;

(c) if not, why not;

(d) whether the Government have got information about the prices of these pulses in ither provinces and the states;

(e) whether there is a great disparity between the prices they have fixed for the districts and the prices prevailing in other provinces and the states;

(f) what is the quantity of these grams that are imported into various deficit districts (districtwar) and at what prices are they imported from outside the Madras Presidency;

(g) what are the prices at which the concerned District Collectors have issued sale orders for imports referred to in clause (f);

(h) whether the Government are issuing permits for export of the various kinds of pulses from surplus districts to deficit districts; if so, how much has been exported since June 1947;

(i) whether the Government have received representations that pulses are getting deteriorated on account of their not being allowed to be exported to deficit districts;

(j) if so, what action they have taken on such representations;

(k) whether the Hon. Minister is aware that the District Collector, Kistna, has fixed Rs. 14-11-0 for a maund of blackgram while the prevailing market-rate in the district is Rs. 23 a maund as the sales of the Masulipatam and Gudivada Co-operative Stores and Mudunooru P.C.C. Society disclose; and

(l) in view of this whether the Government propose to instruct the District Collector, Kistna, to fix the export rate of blackgram on the basis of the prevailing rate in the district?

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THE HON. DR. T. S .S. RAJAN :—" (*a*) The Government have fixed the ceiling prices of redgram, blackgram and greengram in middle of June 1947.

" (*b*) Yes.

" (*c*) Does not arise.

" (*d*) & (*e*) Information is available only for some areas. But so far as information is available, the prices of blackgram in Central Provinces, Eastern States and Hyderabad are lower than those fixed for the districts in the Province. In Central Provinces, United Provinces and Hyderabad the price of redgram is lower than the prices fixed for the local produce. With regard to greengram no information is available on the prices prevailing in provinces and states outside Madras excepting in the case of United Provinces where the price is reported to be Rs. 14–8–0 per imperial maund as against ceiling rates varying from Rs. 14 to Rs. 16–8–0 in the districts of this Province.

" (*f*) The quantities of redgram, blackgram and greengram imported into this Province on Government account from 15th June 1947 are as follows (districtwar) :—

Source.	Importing centre.	Quantity (dholl).	Price per imperial maund.			
		TONS.	RS.	A.	P.	
		Redgram.				
1 Rampur ..	Madras Provincial reserve.	677	24	7	0	f.o.r. Rampur (Redgram dholl superior variety).
2 United Provinces.	Do.	100	21	8	0	f.o.r. despatching station (redgram dholl).
3 Kalahandi ..	Malabar	113	9	8	0	Redgram f.o.r Kalahandi.
	Total ..	890				
		Blackgram.				
1 Hyderabad ..	Madras Provincial reserve.	1,799	15	10	8	f.o.r. Hyderabad.
2 Eastern States.	Do.	176	12	10	9	f.o.r. despatching station.
3 Akalkot and Dudhini.	Do.	95	21	0	0	Do.
4 (*a*) Akalkot and Dudhini.	North Arcot ..	180	22	13	0	f.o.r. Madras.
(*b*) Madras Provincial reserve.	Do. ..	80	17	3	0	f.o.r. Madras reexported.
5 Akalkot and Dudhini.	Coimbatore ..	180	22	13	0	Do.
Hyderabad ..	West Godavari ..	36	15	8	0	f.o.r. Hyderabad.
7 (*a*) Akalkot and Dudhini.	Malabar	200	22	13	0	f.o.r. Madras reexport.
(*b*) Kalahandi ..	Do. ..	200	12	8	0	f.o.r. Kalahandi.

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Source.	Importing centre.	Quantity (whole).	Price per imperial maund.			
		TONS.	RS.	A.	P.	
8 (a) Akalkot and Dudhini.	Tanjore	80	22	13	0	f.o.r. Madras re-export.
(b) Madras Provincial reserve.	Do.	100	22	13	0	Do.
9 Akalkot and Dudhini.	Trichinopoly ..	180	22	13	0	Do.
10 Hyderabad ..	Do. ..	20	15	10	8	f.o.r. Hyderabad.
	Total ..	3,326				
	Greengram.					
1 Nabha	North Arcot ..	100	15	11	0	f.o.r. station of despatch.
	Chingleput ..	200	15	11	0	
	West Godavari ..	100	15	11	0	
	Madras	782	15	11	0	
	Nellore	28½	15	11	0	
	Salem	201½	15	11	0	
	Total ..	1,412				

" (*g*) No information regarding the release prices fixed for these pulses by the Collectors of districts is readily available. But the release prices are generally fixed adding transport and other incidental charges to the import prices.

" (*h*) Quantities of redgram, blackgram and greengram for which permits for export to deficit districts were ordered to be granted are as follows :—

From	to	Quantity.
		TONS.
(*a*) Redgram—		
Kistna	.. .. ..	1,610
Cuddapah	.. .. ..	80
Nellore	.. .. ..	160
	Total ..	1,850

From	to	Quantity.
		TONS.
(*b*) Blackgram—		
Kistna	.. .. ..	2,500
Guntur	.. .. ..	200
	Total ..	2,700

From	to	Quantity.
		TONS.
(*c*) Greengram—		
Tanjore ..	Trichinopoly ..	30
Vizagapatam ..	West Godavari ..	500
	Malabar	900
Kistna ..	North Arcot ..	400
	Anantapur ..	120
	Bellary	80
	Nilgiris	75
	Kurnool	132
	South Kanara ..	60
	West Godavari ..	150
	Madras	500
	Chingleput	20
	Total ..	2,967

Figures regarding the quantities actually moved are not available.

"(i) & (j) In respect of redgram such representations were received from the merchants in Kistna district. The Collector of Kistna however represented that there were not sufficient stocks in his district and in fact wanted that an allotment of 600 tons made from his district to the deficit districts should be cancelled. The Board of Revenue (Civil Supplies) did not agree with him in view of the fact that the Collector would not have taken the redgram stocks available with ryots into account in assessing the surplus and directed him to arrange for the movement of the quantity to the districts expeditiously. As regards blackgram and greengram there were no such complaints.

"(k) The ceiling price for blackgram in Kistna district before 1st October 1947 was Rs. 14 per maund at village site. The revised price is Rs. 15-8-0. All the Collectors have been instructed to enforce the ceiling prices fixed and to penalize by cancellation or suspension of licence of all those who violate the ceilings under the Madras Foodgrains Control Order. It is not known how the Producers' *cum* Consumers' Co-operative Societies of Masulipatam, Gudivada and Mudunooru in Kistna district transacted at rates higher than the ceilings fixed by the Government.

"(l) No. The Government do not propose to take such a step. The Collector of Kistna has, however, been instructed to fix the export price by adding to the village-site ceiling price charges for transport, incidentals and profit."

Selection of newspapers and periodicals for Government advertisements.

* Q. 143.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) the considerations which influence Government in selecting newspapers and periodicals for giving Government advertisements;

(b) the authority competent to give these advertisements;

(c) the names of newspapers and periodicals which are now in receipt of these advertisements; and

(d) whether the list is subject to revision and if so how often and who the authority competent to revise the list is?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"(a) Wide publicity and rates of advertisement are the chief criteria for selecting newspapers for publishing Government advertisements.

"(b) The Departments of Secretariat, Heads of Departments and other officers concerned are competent to give advertisements.